

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 OSLO 01394 231550Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /065 W
-----240234Z 057384 /73

R 231330Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3424
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
SECDEF WASHDC
USMISSION NATO
USNMR SHAPE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OSLO 1394

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, ETRO, NO, SU, FI
SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN OFFICIALS REJECT FINNISH CHARGES THAT NORWAY
IS PRESSURED TO CHANGE ITS SECURITY POLICY

REFS: (A) HELSINKI 0054 (B) OSLO 0954 (C) 76 OSLO 4969 (D)
HELSINKI 0384

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED - SUMMARY: FINNISH PRESIDENT KEKKONEN'S RE-
OPENING OF HIS CONCERN ABOUT FRG PARTICIPATION IN NORWEGIAN NATO
EXERCISES HAVE TOUCHED OFF RENEWED PRESS AND OFFICIAL COMMENTARY
IN NORWAY. PRIME MINISTER NORDLI DENIED THAT NORWAY WAS UNDER
ALLEGED PRESSURES TO TOUGHEN ITS SECURITY POLICY AND SAID THAT
THE GOVERNMENT'S SECURITY POLICY REMAINED FIRM. INITIAL
EVALUATIONS HERE TEND TO FAVOR VIEW THAT KEKKONEN IS ACTING WITH
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 OSLO 01394 231550Z

HIS EYE ON SOVIET PREMIER KOSYGIN'S CURRENT VISIT TO FINLAND,
BUT NONETHELESS THERE IS PUZZLEMENT AND CONCERN OVER KEKKONEN'S
REPEATED CHARGES, WHICH WE WILL REPORT ON IN SEPTTEL. END
SUMMARY.

1. THE NORWEGIAN PRESS HAS GIVEN HEAVY COVERAGE DURING PAST
FEW DAYS TO MAR 17 REPORT IN FINNISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

NEWSPAPER "DEMARI" OF PRESIDENT KEKKONEN'S EXPANSION MAR 9
ON HIS EARLIER EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT WEST GERMAN TROOP
PARTICIPATION IN NATO MANEUVERS IN NORWAY (REFS A & B).
KEKKONEN'S DELIBERATE RESURRECTION OF THE QUESTION AND LIVELY
PRESS INTEREST HAVE LED NORWEGIAN LEADERS TO DENY THE
FINNISH PRESIDENT'S CHARGES THAT NORWAY IS UNDER PRESSURE FROM
MILITARY PERSONS, PRO-NATO LABORITES AND THE CONSERVATIVE
PRESS TO TOUGHEN ITS SECURITY POLICY AND TO STATE ONCE AGAIN
THAT NORWAY IS NOT AND HAS NO PLANS TO CHANGE ITS SECURITY
POLICY.

2. TO PRESS QUERIES ABOUT THE "DEMARI" ARTICLE MAR 17
FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND DENIED THAT PRESSURE WAS BEING
BROUGHT ON THE GOVERNMENT TO CHANGE ITS SECURITY POLICY AND HE
DECLINED FURTHER COMMENT ON THE FINNISH PRESIDENT'S REPORTED
STATEMENT. HE SAID HE WOULD BE MAKING A SPEECH ON NORWAY'S
FOREIGN AND DEFENSE POLICY AT A NORDIC COUNCIL MEETING IN
HELSINKI LATER THIS MONTH. OVER THE WEEKEND LABOR STORING
LEADER TRYGVE BRATTELI AND FORMER CONSERVATIVE FOREIGN
MINISTER JOHN LYNNG ALSO REPLIED TO PRESS ON SUBJECT SAYING THAT
NATO EXERCISES IN NORWAY PRESENTED NO THREAT TO THE EAST.
BRATTELI STRESSED THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN NORWEGIAN
POLICY.

3. PRIME MINISTER NORDLI FELT CONSTRAINED TO SET THE RECORD
STRAIGHT, AND ON MAR 19 AT A POLITICAL RALLY IN HEDMARK NEAR
OSLO HE REJECTED ALSO THE CONTENTION THAT NORWAY WAS UNDER
SUCH PRESSURES, SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAS BELIEVED ALL ALONG
THAT NATO MEMBERSHIP SERVES THE COUNTRY BEST, AND STATED THERE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 OSLO 01394 231550Z

WAS NO OTHER REALISTIC ALTERNATIVE TO NORWEGIAN DEFENSE.

4. IN HIS HEDMARK TALK THE PRIME MINISTER CHOSE TO REITERATE
THE MAIN TENETS OF NORWAY'S SECURITY POLICY IN THE NORTH,
SAYING: "WE CONSIDER IT OUR MAIN TASK TO FIND THE RIGHT
BALANCE BETWEEN OUR SECURITY REQUIREMENTS AND OUR DETERMINATION
AND DESIRE TO KEEP TENSION IN THE NORTH AT AN ABSOLUTE LOW.
NORWAY'S BASE AND NUCLEAR POLICY, THE LIMITATIONS WE HAVE
IMPOSED UPON OURSELVES IN THE CONDUCT OF MILITARY ACTIVITY
UNDER THE SVALBARD TREATY ARE ALL CENTRAL ELEMENTS OF OUR
SECURITY POLICY. THERE ARE NO PLANS FOR CHANGING THIS POLICY
WHICH, WE UNDERSTAND, IS UNDERSTOOD AND ACCEPTED BY OUR
NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES." HE ADDED THAT, "OUR MOST IMPORTANT
ALLIES HAVE REPEATEDLY STATED THEY AGREE WITH THE MAIN AIMS
OF OUR SECURITY POLICY. THERE HAS BEEN NO FORM OF PRESSURE
ON THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT IN THIS REGARD." END UNCLASSIFIED.

5. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE - COMMENT: THE INITIAL REACTIONS
AMONG OBSERVERS HERE IS THAT KEKKONEN HAS LIKELY RETURNED TO

THE FRG/NATO ISSUE WITH HIS EYE ON SOVIET PRIME MINITER
KOSYGIN'S CURRENT VISIT TO FINLAND. NONETHELESS, THERE IS
SOME PERPLEXITY AND CONCERN ABOUT THE FULL RANGE OF MOTIVES
BEHIND THE FINNISH PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT WHICH WENT BEYOND
HIS EARLIER PROTESTATIONS IN SEPTEMBER (REF C) TO INDICATE
THAT NORWAY WAS UNDER PRESSURE AND THAT THE ALLEGED CHANGE
IN NORWAY'S SECURITY POLICY COULD RESULT IN UNDESIRABLE
POLITICAL REACTIONS. ALSO THE FINNISH PRESIDENT APPEARS
TO BE ECHOING EARLIER SOVIET CHARGES THAT NORWAY'S CONSERVATIVE
PRESS IS CONDUCTING AN ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN. THE NORWEGIAN
GOVERNMENT HAS CHOSEN TO REPLY FROM ITS HIGHEST LEVEL TO DENY
THE CHARGES AND TO SPELL OUT ITS POSITION IN SOME DETAIL.
WE WILL BE DISCUSSING THE QUESTION FURTHER HERE WITH VIEW TO
PROVIDING DEPARTMENT ANALYSIS SOON. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED
IN ANY FURTHER ANALYSIS HELSINKI MAY HAVE ON THE FINNISH MOTIVES
FOR REOPENING AND, AT LEAST IN NORWEGIAN EYES, BROADENING THE
ISSUE. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 OSLO 01394 231550Z

ANDERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL MILITARY RELATIONS, MILITARY EXERCISES, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OSLO01394
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770100-0621
Format: TEL
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770331/aaaabals.tel
Line Count: 140
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4c99aab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 HELSINKI 54, 77 OSLO 954, 76 OSLO 4969
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3024094
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORWEGIAN OFFICIALS REJECT FINNISH CHARGES THAT NORWAY IS PRESSURED TO CHANGE ITS SECURITY POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, NO, SU, FI, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4c99aab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009